

# MAT

He look'd a lion with a gloomy glare,  
And o'er his eye-brows hung his matted hair.  
The spleen consisteth of muscular fibres, all matted, as in  
the skin, but in more open work.  
*MA'TADORE. n. f.* [*matador*, a murderer, Spanish.] A hand  
of cards so called from its efficacy against the adverse player.  
Now move to war her fable *matadores*,  
In show like leaders of the swarthy Moors.  
*MA'TACHIN. n. f.* [French.] An old dance.  
Who ever saw a *matachin* dance to imitate fighting: this  
was a fight that did imitate the *matachin*; for they being but  
three that fought, every one had two adversaries striking him  
who struck the third.  
*MATCH. n. f.* [*methe*, French; *miccia*, Italian; probably  
from *mico*, to shine, Latin: surely not, as *Skinner* conjectures,  
from the Saxon *maca*, a companion, because a match is  
companion to a gun.] Any thing that catches fire; generally  
a card, rope, or small chip of wood dipped in melted sul-  
phur.  
Tie them in several bottles *matches*, and see which of them  
last longest without stench.  
He made use of her trees as of *matches* to set Druina a fire.  
Being willing to try something that would not cherish much  
fire at once, and would keep fire much longer than a coal,  
we took a piece of *match*, such as soldiers use.  
2. [From *ματχ*, a fight, or from *maca*, Saxon, one equal to  
another.] A contest; a game; any thing in which there is  
contest or opposition.  
Shall we play the wantons with our woes,  
And make some pretty *match* with shedding tears? *Shakefp.*  
The goat was mine, by finging fairly won.  
A solemn *match* was made; he lost the prize.  
3. [From *maca*, Saxon.] One equal to another; one able to  
contest with another.  
Government mitigates the inequality of power among par-  
ticular ranks, and makes an innocent man, though of the  
lowest rank, a *match* for the mightiest of his fellow-subjects.  
The old man has met with his *match*.  
The natural flame that attends vice, makes them zealous  
to encourage themselves by numbers, and form a party against  
religion: it is with pride they survey their increasing strength,  
and begin to think themselves a *match* for virtue.  
4. One that suits or tallies with another.  
5. A marriage.  
The *match*  
Were rich and honourable; besides, the gentleman  
Is full of virtue, bounty, worth, and qualities,  
Beseeming such a wife as your fair daughter. *Shakefp.*  
Love doth seldom suffer itself to be confined by other *matches*  
than those of its own making.  
With him she strove to join Lavinia's hand,  
But dire portents the purpos'd *match* withstand. *Dryden.*  
6. One to be married.  
She inherited a fair fortune of her own, and was very rich  
in a personal estate, and was looked upon as the richest *match*  
of the West.  
To *MATCH. v. a.* [from the noun.]  
1. To be equal to.  
No settled senses of the world can *match*  
The pleasure of that madness. *Shakefp. Winter's Tale.*  
O thou good Kent, how shall I live and work  
To *match* thy goodness? life will be too short,  
And every measure fail me. *Shakefp. King Lear.*  
2. To shew an equal.  
No history or antiquity can *match* his policies and his con-  
duct. *South's Sermons.*  
3. To equal; to oppose.  
Eternal might  
To *match* with their inventions they presume'd  
So easy, and of his thunder made a scorn. *Milton.*  
What though his heart be great, his actions gallant,  
He wants a crown to poise against a crown,  
Birth to *match* birth, and power to balance power. *Dryden.*  
The shepherd's calendar of Spenser is not to be *matched* in  
any modern language. *Dryden.*  
4. To suit; to proportion.  
Let poets *match* their subject to their strength,  
And often try what weight they can support. *Recommen.*  
Mine have been still  
*Match'd* with my birth; a younger brother's hopes. *Rowe.*  
Employ their wit and humour in chusing and *matching* of  
patterns and colours. *Swift's Miscel.*  
5. To marry; to give in marriage.  
Great king,  
I would not from your love make such a stray,  
To *match* you where I hate. *Shakefp. King Lear.*  
Thou dost protest thy love, and would'st it show  
By *matching* her, as she would *match* her foe. *Donne.*

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Them willingly they would have still retain'd,  
And *match'd* unto the prince. *Daniel's Civil War.*  
When a man thinks himself *match'd* to one who should be  
a comfort to him, instead thereof he finds in his bosom a  
beast. *South's Sermons.*  
A senator of Rome, while Rome surviv'd,  
Would not have *match'd* his daughter with a king. *Addison.*  
To *MATCH. v. n.*  
1. To be married.  
A thing that may luckily fall out to him that hath the blef-  
sing to *match* with some heroic-minded lady. *Sidney, b. ii.*  
I hold it a sin to *match* in my kindred. *Shakefp.*  
Let tigers *match* with hinds, and wolves with sheep,  
And every creature couple with his foe. *Dryd. Sp. Fryar.*  
All creatures else are much unworthy thee,  
They *match'd*, and thou alone art left for me. *Dryden.*  
2. To suit; to be proportionate; to tally.  
*MA'TCHABLE. adj.* [from *match*.]  
1. Suitable; equal; fit to be joined.  
Ye, whose high worths surpassing Paragon,  
Could not on earth have found one fit for mate,  
Ne but in heaven *matchable* to none,  
Why did ye stoop unto so lowly state? *Spenser, Sonnet 66.*  
2. Correspondent.  
Those at land that are not *matchable* with any upon our  
shores, are of those very kinds which are found no where but  
in the deepest parts of the sea. *Woodward's Nat. Hist.*  
*MA'TCHLESS. adj.* [from *match*.] Without an equal.  
This happy day two lights are seen,  
A glorious faint, a *matchless* queen. *Waller.*  
Much less, in arms, oppose thy *matchless* force,  
When thy sharp spurs shall urge thy foaming horse. *Dryd.*  
*MA'TCHLESSLY. n. f.* In a manner not to be equalled.  
*MA'TCHLESSNESS. n. f.* [from *matchless*.] State of being with-  
out an equal.  
*MA'TCHMAKER. n. f.* [*match* and *make*.]  
1. One who contrives marriages.  
You came to him to know  
If you should carry me, or no;  
And would have hir'd him and his imps,  
To be your *matchmakers* and pimps. *Hudibras, p. iii.*  
2. One who makes matches to burn.  
*MATE. n. f.* [*maca*, Saxon; *maet*, Dutch.]  
1. A husband or wife.  
I that am frail flesh and earthly wight,  
Unworthy *mate* for such immortal mate,  
Myself well wote, and mine unequal fate. *Fairy Queen.*  
2. A companion, male or female.  
Go, base intruder! over-weening slave!  
Bestow thy fawning smiles on equal mates. *Shakefp.*  
My competitor.  
In top of all design, my *mate* in empire,  
Friend and companion in the front of war. *Shakefp.*  
You knew me once no *mate*  
For you; there fitting where you durst not soar. *Milton.*  
Damon, behold you breaking purple cloud;  
Hear'st thou not hymns and songs divinely loud:  
There mounts Amyntas, the young cherubs play  
About their godlike *mate*, and sing him on his way. *Dryd.*  
Leave thy bride alone:  
Go, leave her with her maiden *mates* to play  
At sports more harmless, till the break of day. *Dryden.*  
3. The male or female of animals.  
Part single, or with mate;  
Graze the sea-weed their pasture, and through groves  
Of coral stray. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. vii.*  
Pliny tells us, that elephants know no copulation with any  
other than their own proper *mate*. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*  
4. One that fails in the same ship.  
What vengeance on the passing fleet she pour'd,  
The master frighted, and the *mates* devour'd. *Recommen.*  
5. One that eats at the same table.  
6. The second in subordination; as, the master's *mate*; the  
chirurgion's *mate*.  
To *MATE. v. a.* [from the noun.]  
1. To match; to marry.  
Ensample make of him your hapless joy,  
And of myself now *mated* as you see,  
Whose prouder vaunt, that proud avenging boy,  
Did soon pluck down, and curb'd my liberty. *Fairy Qu.*  
The hind, that would be *mated* by the lion,  
Must die for love. *Shakefp. All's well that ends well.*  
2. To be equal to.  
Some from seeds inclos'd on earth arise,  
For thus the fruitful chestnut *mates* the skies. *Dryden.*  
Parnassus is its name; whose forky rise  
Mounts through the clouds, and *mates* the lofty skies:  
High on the summit of this dubious cliff,  
Deucalion wafting moor'd his little skiff. *Dryden.*  
3. To

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To oppose; to equal.  
I i' th' way of loyalty and truth,  
Dare *mate* a sounder man than Surrey can be,  
And all that love his follies. *Shakefp.'s Henry VIII.*  
4. [*Mater*, French; *matar*, Spanish.] To subdue; to con-  
found; to crush.  
That is good deceit. *Shakefp.*  
Which *mater* him first, that first intends deceit. *Shakefp.*  
The great effects that may come of industry and per-  
severance who knoweth not? For audacity doth almost bind  
and *mater* the weaker sort of minds. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*  
My sense the 'as *mated*, and amaz'd my fight. *Shakefp.*  
Why this is strange; go call the abbess hither;  
I think you are all *mated*, or stark mad. *Shakefp.*  
*MATERIAL. adj.* [*materiel*, French; *materialis*, Latin.]  
1. Consisting of matter; corporeal; not spiritual.  
When we judge, our minds we mirrors make;  
And as those glasses which *material* be,  
Forms of *material* things do only take,  
For thoughts or minds in them we cannot see. *Davies.*  
That these trees of life and knowledge were *material* trees,  
though figures of the law and the gospel, it is not doubted  
by the most religious and learned writers. *Raleigh.*  
2. Important; momentous; essential.  
We must propose unto all men certain petitions incident,  
and very material in causes of this nature. *Hooker, b. v.*  
Hold them for catholics or heretics, it is not a thing  
either one way or another, in this present question, *material*.  
*Hooker, b. iv.*  
What part of the world forever we fall into, the ordinary  
use of this very prayer hath, with equal continuance, ac-  
companied the fame, as one of the principal and most *mate-  
rial* duties of honour due to Christ. *Hooker, b. v.*  
It may discover some secret meaning and intent therein,  
very *material* to the state of that government. *Spenser.*  
The question is not, whether you allow or disallow that  
book, neither is it *material*. *Whitgift.*  
He would not stay at your petitions made;  
His business more *material*. *Shakefp. Winter's Tale.*  
Neither is this a question of words, but infinitely *material*  
in nature. *Bacon's Nat. Hist. No. 98.*  
I pass the rest, whose every race and name,  
And kinds are left *material* to my theme. *Dryden's Virg.*  
As for the more *material* faults of writing, though I see  
many of them, I want leisure to amend them. *Dryden.*  
I shall, in the account of simple ideas, set down only such  
as are most *material* to our present purpose. *Locke.*  
In this *material* point, the constitution of the English go-  
vernment far exceeds all others. *Swift.*  
*MATERIALS. n. f.* [this word is scarcely used in the singular;  
*materials*, French.] The substance of which any thing is  
made.  
The West-Indians, and many nations of the Africans,  
finding means and *materials*, have been taught, by their own  
necessities, to pass rivers in a boat of one tree. *Raleigh.*  
Intending an accurate enumeration of medical *materials*,  
the omission hereof affords some probability it was not used  
by the ancients. *Brown's Vulg. Errors, b. i.*  
David, who made such rich provision of *materials* for the  
building of the temple, because he had dip't his hands in blood,  
was not permitted to lay a stone in that sacred pile. *South.*  
That lamp in one of the heathen temples the art of man  
might make of some such *material* as the stone asbestus, which  
being once kindled will burn without being consumed. *Wilk.*  
The *materials* of that building very fortunately ranged  
themselves into that delicate order, that it must be a very  
great chance that parts them. *Tillotson.*  
Simple ideas, the *materials* of all our knowledge, are sug-  
gested to the mind only by sensation and reflection. *Locke.*  
Such a fool was never found,  
Who pull'd a palace to the ground,  
Only to have the ruins made  
*Materials* for an house decay'd. *Swift's Miscel.*  
*MATERIALIST. n. f.* [from *material*.] One who denies spi-  
ritual substances.  
He was bent upon making Memmius a *materialist*. *Dryd.*  
*MATERIALITY. n. f.* [*materialité*, Fr. from *material*.] Coe-  
poreity; material existence; not spirituality.  
Considering that corporeity could not agree with this uni-  
versal subsistent nature, abstracting from all *materiality* in his  
ideas, and giving them an actual subsistence in nature, he  
made them like angels, whose essences were to be the essence,  
and to give existence to corporeal individuals; and so each  
idea was embodied in every individual of its species. *Digby.*  
*MATERIALLY. adv.* [from *material*.]  
1. In the state of matter.  
I do not mean, that any thing is separable from a body by  
fire that was not *materially* pre-existent in it. *Boyle.*  
2. Not formally.  
Though an ill intention is certainly sufficient to spoil and

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corrupt an act in itself *materially* good, yet no good intention  
whatsoever can rectify or infuse a moral goodness into an act  
otherwise evil. *South's Sermons.*  
3. Importantly; essentially.  
All this concerneth the customs of the Irish very *materially*;  
as well to reform those which are evil, as to confirm and con-  
tinue those which are good. *Spenser on Ireland.*  
*MATERIALNESS. n. f.* [from *material*.] State of being mate-  
rial; importance.  
*MATERIATE. } adj.* [*materiatus*, Latin.] Consisting of mat-  
*MATERIATED. } ter.*  
After long enquiry of things immerse in matter, interpose  
some subject which is immaterial or less *material*, such as  
this of sounds, to the end that the intellect may be rectified,  
and become not partial. *Bacon's Nat. Hist. No. 114.*  
*MATERIATION. n. f.* [from *materia*, Lat.] The act of form-  
ing matter.  
Creation is the production of all things out of nothing; a  
formation not only of matter but of form, and a *materiation*  
even of matter itself. *Brewster.*  
*MATERNAL. adj.* [*materna*, Fr. *maternus*, Lat.] Motherly;  
befitting or pertaining to a mother.  
The babe had all that infant care beguiles,  
And early knew his mother in her smiles;  
At his first aptness the maternal love  
Those rudiments of reason did improve. *Dryden.*  
*MATERNITY. n. f.* [*maternité*, French, from *materius*, Lat.]  
The character or relation of a mother.  
*MAT-FELON. n. f.* [*mater*, to kill, and *felon*, a thief.] A  
species of knap-weed growing wild.  
*MATHEMATICAL. } adj.* [*mathematicus*, Lat.] Considered  
*MATHEMATICK. } according to the doctrine of the*  
*mathematicians.*  
The East and West,  
Upon the globe, a *mathematick* point  
Only divides: thus happiness and misery,  
And all extremes, are still contiguous. *Denham's Sophy.*  
It is as impossible for an aggregate of finites to comprehend  
or exhaust one infinite, as it is for the greatest number of *ma-  
thematick* points to amount to, or constitute a body. *Boyle.*  
I suppose all the particles of matter to be situated in an  
exact and *mathematical* evenness. *Bentley's Serm.*  
*MATHEMATICALLY. adv.* [from *mathematick*.] According to  
the laws of the mathematical sciences.  
We may be *mathematically* certain, that the heat of the  
sun is according to the density of the sun-beams, and is reci-  
procally proportional to the square of the distance from the  
body of the sun. *Bentley's Sermons.*  
*MATHEMATICIAN. n. f.* [*mathematicus*, Lat. *mathematicien*,  
French.] A man versed in the mathematics.  
One of the most eminent *mathematicians* of the age assured  
me, that the greatest pleasure he took in reading Virgil was  
in examining *Aeneas's* voyage by the map. *Addison's Spect.*  
*MATHEMATICKS. n. f.* [*μαθηματικα*.] That science which  
contemplates whatever is capable of being numbered or mea-  
sured; and it is either pure or mixt: pure considers abstrac-  
ted quantity, without any relation to matter; mixt is inter-  
woven with physical considerations. *Harris.*  
The *mathematick* and the metaphysics  
Fall to them, as you find your stomach serves you. *Shak.*  
See mystery to *mathematick* fly. *Pope.*  
*MATHE'S. n. f.* An herb. *Amf.*  
*MATHE'SIS. n. f.* [*μαθησις*.] The doctrine of mathematics.  
Mad *Mathe'sis* alone was unconfin'd. *Pope.*  
*MATIN. adj.* [*matine*, French; *matutinus*, Latin.] Morning;  
used in the morning.  
Up rose the victor angels, and to arms  
The *matin* trumpet sung. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. vi.*  
I waste the *matin* lamp in sighs for thee;  
Thy image steals between my god and me. *Pope.*  
*MATIN. n. f.* Morning.  
The glow-worm shews the *matin* to be near,  
And gins to pale his uneffectual fire. *Shakefp.*  
*MATINS. n. f.* [*matines*, French.] Morning worship.  
The winged choristers began  
To chirp their *matins*. *Cleveland.*  
By the pontifical, no altar is consecrated without reliques:  
the vigils are celebrated before them, and the nocturn and  
*matins*, for the saints whose the reliques are. *Stillingfleet.*  
That he should raise his mixt crest on high,  
And clap his wings, and call his family  
To sacred rites; and vex th' ethereal powers  
With midnight *matins*, at uncivil hours. *Dryden.*  
*MATRASS. n. f.* [*matras*, French.]  
*Matrass* is the name of a chemical glass vessel made for  
digestion or distillation, being sometimes bellied, and some-  
times rising gradually taper into a conical figure. *Quincy.*  
Protect from violent storms, and the too parching darts of  
the sun, your pennached tulips and ranunculus's, covering  
them with *matrasses*. *Evelyn's Kalendar.*

MA'TRICE.